

# SAMPLE PAPER



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

## Level 1 English

### 1.1: Show understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), using supporting evidence

Credits: Four

Check that you have completed ALL parts of the box at the top of this page.

You should write an essay on ONE of the topics in this booklet only.

If you need more space for your answer, use the page(s) provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–9 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

**YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO YOUR TEACHER AT THE END OF THE ALLOTTED TIME.**

For Assessor's use only			Achievement Criteria		
Achievement			Achievement with Merit		
Achievement			Achievement with Merit		
Show understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), using supporting evidence.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Show convincing understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), using supporting evidence.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Show perceptive understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), using supporting evidence.		<input type="checkbox"/>
Overall Level of Performance			M Low Merit		

You are advised to spend 60 minutes planning and writing an essay on your chosen topic.

## INSTRUCTIONS

Write about ONE or more written texts that you have studied.

If you choose to write about more than one text, the texts you write about could be the same type (eg, TWO poems) or different text types (eg, a poem and a short story). You may have the same or different authors. You may compare or contrast the texts if you wish.

The texts can be any of the following:

- novel
- non-fiction
- short story
- poetry/song lyric
- print media
- drama
- digital/online text.

OR a combination of the above (inter-textual studies).

Choose ONE of the following topics (1–6) below and complete the box at the top of page 4.

Make sure you understand and can write about BOTH parts of the topic before you start writing.

Make sure your chosen topic suits the text(s).

Write an essay of AT LEAST 200 words for your answer.

Support your points with specific details from the text(s).

### TOPICS (Choose one)

1. Describe at least ONE **character or individual** you enjoyed reading about in the text(s).  
Explain why the character(s) or individual(s) helped you understand an idea in the text(s).
2. Describe at least ONE **idea** in the text(s) that you found interesting.  
Explain why the idea(s) was interesting in the text(s) as a whole.
3. Describe at least ONE important **aspect of setting** in the text(s).  
Explain why an aspect(s) of setting helped you understand a key idea(s) in the text(s).  
*Note: Setting could include time and/or place.*
4. Describe at least ONE **language feature** that was used to help you understand an important idea in the text(s).  
Explain why the language feature(s) helped you understand a key idea(s) in the text(s).  
*Note: Language feature(s) could include imagery, style, vocabulary, or symbolism.*
5. Describe at least ONE **event** at or near the end of the text(s) that was important.  
Explain why the event helped you understand a key idea(s) in the text(s).
6. Describe at least ONE **important conflict** in the text(s).  
Explain why the conflict helped you understand a key idea(s) in the text(s).

Topic number: 5

Circle your chosen written text(s):

novel

non-fiction

print media

drama

short story

poetry/song lyric

digital/online text

Title of text(s): The Boy in the striped Pyjamas.Author/creator(s): John Boyne

Use the space below to map or plan your ideas. Begin your essay on page 5.

## PLANNING

Your essay might include:

- an **introduction** that states the focus of your essay
- **key points** related to the topic, supported by examples and quotations
- a **conclusion** that focuses on the main idea.

event - in the gas chamber

why help understand? Ideas.

The power of Friendship

Stayed together, didn't let go to save themselves.

q. 'you my best friend for life'

Finding Shmuel's papa

Vulnerability of Innocence - can't gain it back

Bruno's Innocence shows us he is naive and vulnerable to the situation

q. - on the march 'I don't ~~want~~ have time to go on a march, I have to be home in time for dinner. Its roast beef tonight'conclusion

- Power of friendship is strong
- ~~The system isn't working great as a German is killed.~~
- Vulnerability of Innocence.

The candidate has identified the idea but shows no specific reference to the event.

Begin your essay here.

Assessor's  
use only

John Boyne's 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' shows us a very important event that shows us how the power of friendship is important and also the vulnerability of innocence. Bruno and Shmuel help us understand this as their friendship is a forbidden one.

Bruno and Shmuel are sent on a 'march' as Shmuel calls it. These two boys are in an extermination camp, 'out-with'. Bruno is a German, and the son of the commandant. He is helping his new friend, Shmuel, to find his 'papa'. Shmuel is a Jew. As these young boys are pushed and shoved with all the other 'terribly sad and terribly skinny' ~~poor~~ Jews, they realise they may be in trouble. The pushing and shoving stops as they enter a room full of showers.

The power of friendship is a very important idea in 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas'. It shows us that ~~although~~ even though Shmuel is a Polish Jew, and Bruno is German, friendship is still possible and they ~~are~~ are not as different as 'The Fury' thinks. As soon as the march begins, Bruno and Shmuel are side by side holding hands. They are both scared, but the power of their friendship is so strong that each other's company makes this moment bearable. The chamber Bruno and Shmuel enter, is a gas chamber. Once they are locked in, the air is running out and all the Jews are banging and screaming trying to escape. Bruno and Shmuel don't let go of each other's hands. By doing this, it shows us how strong their friendship is because they could let their hands go and cover their mouth

The candidate has referred to the idea shown by the event in a clear, convincing response.

→ PTO

and nose to stop the gas entering. They could also try and escape, but they don't. Bruno and Shmuel stay together. I believe this is a strong, powerful friendship because Bruno and Shmuel are young (about 8-9 years of age). They live on opposite sides of the fence. This means that they cannot play together like other children. Bruno and Shmuel's friendship is based on talking, and sharing stories about their life. This means they like each other for who they are as a person, not about how exciting Bruno's toys are.

The candidate has expanded on the idea of friendship, but the response lacks depth.

~~The power of friendship is also shown when Bruno sneaks into the extermination camp to help Shmuel find his 'papa'. It shows us their friendship is strong and powerful because Bruno is willing to risk getting in trouble with his parents for coming home late. He will also miss his 'Roast Beef' dinner. Bruno does make the statement that he should go home, but as he made a promise to Shmuel, Bruno stays to search for Shmuel's 'papa'. This shows us their friendship means a lot to Bruno.~~

Vulnerability of innocence is also an important idea in the Boy in the Striped Pyjamas. John Boyne has written this novel in third person. It is limited to Bruno so we can only know his thoughts and what others say to him. John Boyne has used naive narration. Bruno is young so he is vulnerable to the soldiers, war and propaganda. This makes him very naive. ~~As Shmuel breaks some of~~

Bruno's innocence as he tells him the camp and the soldiers are bad. Bruno also loses innocence when he enters the camp and sees 'terribly sad and terribly skinny' people. When Bruno and Shmuel are ~~going~~ looking for Shmuel's papa, Bruno says 'I ~~must be home to dinner~~ don't have time to go on a march, I have to be home for dinner, it's roast beef tonight'. This shows us, that even though Bruno can see for ~~himself~~ himself that he is in a bad situation, his innocence and naivety is in the way stopping and letting him realise what is actually happening and that his father's job isn't a good job.

John Boyne convincingly expresses these ~~to~~ two ~~important~~ important ideas. ~~with~~ He shows us how ~~the~~ Bruno and Shmuel's friendship is powerful by the actions used towards each other and shows us ~~the~~ the vulnerability of innocence by using naive narration.

The candidate has explored another idea convincingly, giving examples and an explanation.

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